

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D. C. 20505

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Col. Raymond S. Sleeper, USAF (Ret.)
Vice President, Leadership Foundation
7945 MacArthur Boulevard
Cabin John, Maryland 20818

Dear Col. Sleeper:

Thank you for your letter of July 11 with its positive evaluation of the Airlie House conference on Soviet propaganda and disinformation. Special thanks also for your lexicon on Marxist-Leninist semantics. As you know from my opening remarks at the conference, this subject has been a particular concern of mine for some time, and the more people who are made aware of the problem through efforts like yours, the better for the health of our nation and the West.

You have made several useful suggestions regarding what can be done about Communist disinformation and deception. You can rest assured that we are actively working on this problem. One part of this effort is educational, so we are indeed planning to issue a report on the conference and are considering also a follow-on conference such as you proposed.

As for the study that you and General Schreiver are undertaking on Soviet deception--broadly conceived, I assume--I can only applaud the effort. I would be pleased if you were to contact my National Intelligence Officer for Foreign Denial and Intelligence Activities, Fred Hutchinson, and discuss it with him.

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Sincerely,

William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence

Letter to Col. Raymond S. Sleeper, Leadership Foundation

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Mr. William Casey
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

I want to thank you for the privilege of attending the conference at Airlie House the last week of June on Soviet disinformation, propaganda, and active measures.

I commanded the United States Air Force Foreign Technology Division and was Chief of the Air Force Systems Command Foreign Technology office (technical intelligence), from 1960 to 1967. I saw the tremendous rise of Soviet investment in missiles, space, air craft and all military weapons systems. I also saw the beginning rise of Soviet worldwide active measures operations.

Upon retirement in 1967 I started working on the problem of translation of Marxist-Leninist terminology into truthful English. The result finally was a publication of "A Lexicon Of Marxist-Leninist Semantics" which is a lexicon of Marxist-Leninist concepts. These concepts as you well know, have specific meaning to the Nomenklatura whereas they have a very different, usually diametrically opposite, meaning in the United States and in the West, in general. I am convinced that we must teach our intelligence officers, our diplomats, our foreign service officers, our Voice of America personnel, and even the average American what these concepts are and what they mean.

Stalin wrote a little book called "The Word". In this book he said that "the most important weapon in my arsenal is the dictionary". Marxist-Leninist leaders worldwide, are indoctrinated in these concepts

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- 2 -

and use them to deceive their enemies. This Semantic deception penetrates our education, penetrates our press and penetrates all of our media. The "People's Democratic Republic of Kampuchea" is a clear example. The Communists killed some two million people in the name of democracy in Cambodia. How preposterous!

Most people in the West still do not know the difference between the "Republic of China" and "The People's Democratic Republic of China". This type of confusion is perpetuated worldwide by our media.

Professor Libor Brom suggested at your conference that a translation facility be established to translate Marxist-Leninist terms into simple English. This is a crucial suggestion. Such a service could easily be established as an adjunct to the FIBIS or the JPRS activities.

Such a service could start at a fairly low level of activity with a few people to translate basic Soviet publications such as Gobachev speeches, lead stories in Pravda, lead stories in Moscow News, etc. These translations should be made available to the leadership echelons in our government but they should also be made available to the media, the universities and the public at large. Properly marketed the service should pay for itself.

There are a dozen or more "dictionaries", "lexicons", and similar publications on interpreting Communeese language. It would be useful to obtain the advice of a group of truly top level semanticists in establishing this service. I'm thinking of men like Professor I.A. Richards of Harvard, (probably deceased by now), Hayakawa--men or women of that stature in the field of semantics.

Someone asked Solzenitsyn how to defeat communism and he replied "tell the truth, tell the truth, tell the truth". When the U.S. Secretary of State is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for engineering a "just peace", (a Communist term for a peace favoring the growth of Communism), there is a burning need for truth.

Your conference was well planned and well run. I sincerely hope you will publish the minutes of the meeting.

But you dare not stop with the publication of the minutes. A follow-on conference is needed to discuss "what can be done" about Soviet disinformation, propaganda, and active measures.

Meanwhile, I am running a study developing a complete book on "Soviet deception". General Bernard A. Schreiver is chairing the study. We would

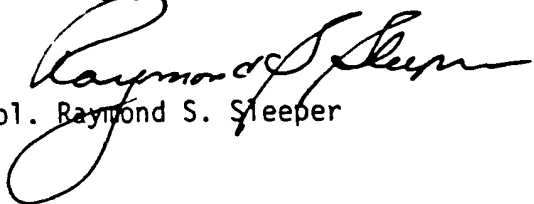
- 3 -

like to discuss this study with you or such persons as you may designate if you find it of interest.

I have enclosed a copy of my book on Marxist-Leninist Semantics for your personal library.

Congratulations again on giving this vital subject--Soviet deception methods--priority status in your busy schedule.

Sincerely yours,


Col. Raymond S. Sleeper

RSS/jeb

Encl.

*PS Albert Salter - Herb Romerstein - Lucian
Heckler and others, did a great job -
especially Salter.*
RSS